

MRSA Resources



MRSA infected arm
Source: CDC

This brochure was intended to provide the basic information about MRSA, how it is transmitted, diagnosed,

treated, and prevented.

If you are interested in additional information there are a number of website with excellent information.

Centers for Disease and Prevention (CDC)

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca.html

Tennessee Department of Health

<http://health.state.tn.us/MRSA/index.htm>

Shelby County Website

www.shelbycountyttn.gov



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Memphis and Shelby County
Health Department**

MEMPHIS AND SHELBY COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

814 Jefferson Ave.
Memphis, TN 38105

Epidemiology Section
Phone: 901-544-7717
Fax: 901-544-7703

E-mail:

epidemiology@co.shelby.tn.us

Prepared by Public Relations 11/07

MRSA FACTS for our Community

What is MRSA ?

and

How it is transmitted?

This brochure is intended to help everyone understand what MRSA is and how to protect yourself and your family, at home, school and in your workplace.

MEMPHIS AND SHELBY
COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

901-544-7600

*To promote, protect and improve
the health and environment of all
Shelby County residents.*

What is MRSA (Mur-sa)?

Type of “*Staph*” infection

- Often causes skin infections
- Resistant to many antibiotics, including penicillin



MRSA or “*Staph*” infection

What does it look like?

- A “spider bite”
- A “bug bite”
- Abscess
- Boil
- Impetigo
- Infected turf burn

(Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*)

How is MRSA treated?

By a healthcare provider who may:

- Drain the infection *and/or*
- Give an antibiotic *and/or*
- Help reduce the amount of bacteria on the skin

How do you get MRSA?

- Touching someone’s MRSA-infected skin
- Touching surfaces that are contaminated with MRSA
- Sharing sports equipment
- Sharing personal hygiene items (bar soap, towels, Washcloths)
- Not having the resources to keep clean
- Overusing antibiotics, also stopping them early, or missing doses



WASH Hands Often for 20 seconds with soap and water.

Stop the spread of MRSA

- Wash hands often with soapy water
- Use 60% alcohol-based hand gel when soap and water are not available
(supervise young children)
- Do not share personal items (bar soap, towels, razors) or clothing
- Avoid contact with other people’s skin infections
- Cover all wounds with a clean, dry bandage taped on all four sides
- Stay home from school or work if wound drainage cannot be contained by a bandage
- Report skin infections to the school nurse/employee health
- Wipe down shared desks, keyboards, phones and light switches regularly
- Do not take antibiotics unless necessary